

two different exons or portions of exons of the BRCA1 gene in a multiplex amplification reaction.

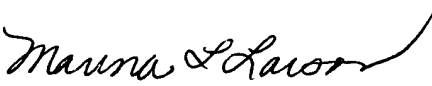
65. The kit according to claim 64, wherein the primers are selected for amplification of exons 2, 5, 9 and 14 of the BRCA1 gene in one multiplex amplification reaction.

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is presented to add a complete reference to the parent case and to a new set of claims for consideration by the Examiner. Claims 53-65 correspond to claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 19-26 and 29 in the parent case (serial no. 08/649,950). These claims were rejected in that case over combinations of references which in each case included US Patent No. 5,545,527 of Stevens et al. The inventions of this application and the Stevens patent are commonly assigned, and were the subject of a common obligation to assign at the time the inventions were made. The Examiner acknowledged in the Office Action mailed July 18, 2001 (Page 9), that filing of a continuing prosecution application together with such a statement would exclude the Stevens et al. reference as prior art. Applicants respectfully submit that the same is true for the present continuation application. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that none of the rejections made in the parent case are available, and that the claims presented in this application are in form for allowance.

Applicants enclose terminal disclaimers for this application over the parent case and the Stevens patent, together with the appropriate fee.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED UP COPY OF AMENDMENTS

In the specification:

This application is a continuation of US Patent Application Serial No. 08/649,950, filed May 14, 1996, which is a continuation-in-part of US Patent Application Serial No. 08/271,946, filed July 8, 1994, now US Patent No. 5,545,527, both of which [is] are incorporated herein by reference.

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